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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS
ON PETITION**

In re Patent No. 6,024,708 :
Issue Date: February 15, 2000 :
Application No. 08/928,453 :
Filed: September 12, 1997 :
Patentee(s) Thomas O. Bales et al :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed April 26, 2004, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Irvin Dingle at (571) 272-3210.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

Irvin Dingle
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy